

P 161315Z NOV 92
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5859
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ANKARA 15625

FOR S/CT FOR REAP

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER TU
SUBJECT: TURKEY: 1992 ANNUAL TERRORISM REPORT
REF: STATE 338430

¶1. PER REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION RESPONDS TO ITEMS (A) THROUGH (I).

A) THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS NO PROSECUTIONS INVOLVING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN TRAIN AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, THE GOT IS PROCEEDING WITH MULTIPLE PROSECUTIONS AGAINST DOMESTIC TERRORISTS AS OF NOVEMBER 1992. THE TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE (TNP) MOUNTED SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS AGAINST DOMESTIC TERRORISTS DURING 1992, MOST NOTABLY IN A SERIES OF "SAFE HOUSE" RAIDS IN ISTANBUL, ANKARA, ADANA AND IZMIR. THE TNP TOOK INTO CUSTODY SCORES OF PERSONS SUSPECTED OF TERRORIST ACTS. SOME OF THOSE APPREHENDED ARE BELIEVED TO BE AFFILIATED WITH DEV-SOL ("DEVRIMCI SOL" OR REVOLUTIONARY LEFT), INCLUDING ONE SUSPECT WHO IS CURRENTLY ON TRIAL IN IZMIR FOR COMPLICITY IN THE FEBRUARY 1991 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON USAF LT. COL. ALVIN MACKE. (THE PRIMARY SUSPECT IN THE MACKE ATTACK IS BELIEVED TO HAVE DIED IN 1991 WHEN AN IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO PLANT EXPLODED PREMATURELY.) PERSONS SUSPECTED OF PARTICIPATING IN ATTEMPTED ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL IN ISTANBUL FACE TRIAL AT THE STATE SECURITY COURT THERE. OTHERS ARE ON TRIAL FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE OUTLAWED SEPARATIST KURDISTAN WORKERS' PARTY, THE PKK. ALL PERSONS APPREHENDED BY THE TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE AND ARRAIGNED ON CHARGES RELATING TO TERRORIST ACTIVITY ARE KEPT IN DETENTION AS THEIR TRIALS PROCEED.

B) EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO EXTRADITIONS OR REQUESTED EXTRADITIONS OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS FOR PROSECUTION TO DATE IN 1992. IN NOVEMBER PRESS REPORTS SPECULATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY MIGHT REQUEST EXTRADITION OF PKK GUERRILLAS, INCLUDING THE PKK MILITARY HEAD OSMAN OCALAN, WHO REPORTEDLY HAVE COME INTO THE CUSTODY OF THE PESHMERGA FORCES IN NORTHERN IRAQ. THERE HAS BEEN NO/NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT TO DATE.

C) TURKEY EXPERIENCES NO SIGNIFICANT IMPEDIMENTS TO GOVERNMENT PROSECUTION AND/OR EXTRADITION OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS. THE ABILITY OF TURKISH SECURITY FORCES TO CAPTURE PERSONS SUSPECTED OF TERRORIST ACTS IS THE MAIN LIMITATION ON MORE PROSECUTIONS.

D) HOST GOVERNMENT RESPONSES OTHER THAN PROSECUTION HAVE INCLUDED FREQUENT AND VIGOROUS PUBLIC DENUNCIATIONS OF TERRORISM. ANTI-TERROR RHETORIC PUNCTUATED THE PUBLIC DISCOURSE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER ON DOWN THROUGHOUT 1992. THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ANATOLIA NEWS AGENCY ALSO PROVIDED TRANSCRIPTS OF GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS VOWING TO CRUSH TERRORISM IN TURKEY. THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY HAS COOPERATED WITH U.S. AND OTHER THIRD COUNTRY AUTHORITIES TO DETER TERRORIST THREATS.

E) MAJOR COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN IN 1992 BY THE HOST GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING STEPS TAKEN IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, INCLUDE:
-- ANTI-PKK OFFENSIVES BY MILITARY AND JANDARMA FORCES, WHICH HAVE OCCURRED WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY IN 1992.

MOST OF THESE HAVE OCCURRED INSIDE TURKEY'S BORDERS, BUT THE MILITARY HAS CONDUCTED CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS IN HOT PURSUIT OF PKK ATTACKERS INTO BOTH IRAQ AND IRAN. SINCE OCTOBER 5, A MAJOR OFFENSIVE BY TURKISH MILITARY FORCES (IN COOPERATION WITH PESHMERGA FORCES) HAS SOUGHT TO DRIVE THE PKK FROM ITS CAMPS IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

-- TNP RAIDS (ESPECIALLY THOSE IN MAY AND AUGUST) AGAINST DEV-SOL SAFEHOUSES IN MAJOR URBAN CENTERS RESULTED IN THE CAPTURE OF SOME OF THE TERROR ORGANIZATION'S LEADERS ALONG WITH RANK-AND-FILE MEMBERS; THE SEIZURE OF WEAPONS, AMMUNITION, AND MATERIALS FOR MAKING BOMBS; AND THE ACQUISITION OF DOCUMENTS VALUABLE TO INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER-TERROR OFFICERS.

-- TURKISH GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-TERROR POSITION OF THE CSCE, ALONG WITH CONTINUING TURKISH SUPPORT OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS ON TERRORISM.

F) THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY DOES NOT SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM; TURKEY OPPOSES TERRORISM, DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL, AND MAKES ITS POSITION OUTSPOKENLY CLEAR AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. WHILE TURKEY DOES MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IRAN, LIBYA, SYRIA, IRAQ AND THE PLO, WE WOULD NOT CHARACTERIZE TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THESE AS CONSTITUTING "DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT" FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

G) TURKEY HAS MADE NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF A TERRORIST-SUPPORTING COUNTRY ON A TERRORISM ISSUE.

H) THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE SINCE 1991 IN TURKEY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD TERRORISM, INTERNATIONAL OR DOMESTIC. IF ANYTHING, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-TERRORIST STANCE HAS BECOME EVEN MORE OUTSPOKEN AND ADAMANT.

I) IN FORMAL TERMS, TURKEY CONSIDERS ITSELF "IN COMPLIANCE" WITH UNSCR 748: TURKISH AIRLINES FLIGHTS TO LIBYA AND LIBYAN ARAB AIRLINES FLIGHTS TO TURKEY CEASED; TURKEY HAD NO EXISTING MILITARY SUPPLY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIP WITH LIBYA; TURKEY BARRED LIBYAN ARAB AIRLINES PERSONNEL FROM ITS AIRPORTS AND LAA OFFICES CLOSED FOR LACK OF BUSINESS. TURKEY HAS NOT, HOWEVER, MADE A "SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION" IN DIPLOMATIC STAFFING. TURKEY MAINTAINS ITS 3-4 PERSON EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI (CITING THE NEED TO SERVE THE THOUSANDS OF TURKISH CONTRACT EMPLOYEES WORKING IN LIBYA) AND REFUSES TO EXPEL ANY LIBYAN DIPLOMATS FROM THE EMBASSY IN ANKARA. (THE DIPLOMATIC BOOK LISTS 11 LIBYANS--INCLUDING TWO "FINANCIAL ATTACHES"--AS POSTED IN ANKARA.)

BARKLEY